

Section of Philosophy and History of Ideas, Aarhus University

SLØK LECTURE

30 OCTOBER 2014

1 PM – 3 PM, BUILDING 1441, AUDITORIUM 3



PROFESSOR ANTHONY GRAFTON
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY: THE CONFSSIONAL ORIGINS OF
MODERN SCHOLARSHIP**

Ecclesiastical history in early modern Europe is often described, even by experts, as a domain of truly awful scholarship, shaped by ideology rather than sources. These descriptions are not false. But they miss central points. Ecclesiastical scholars pioneered in both the organization of collective inquiry and the development of technical methods for historical research. The fascination of their work lies precisely in the way that ideology and erudition intersected in it, often giving rise to spectacularly unpredictable results.

Professor Grafton is one of the world's leading intellectual historians. His immense publication record demonstrates his expert knowledge in the history of ideas of especially the Renaissance. From art, history and humanism to science, religion and reading, Professor Grafton has provided many new insights and perspectives throughout his career. For his achievements he has been awarded numerous academic awards and honors.

Following the Sløk Lecture, the section of Philosophy and History of Ideas will host a short reception.